

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 06067 091616Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----091617Z 014098 /42
O 091521Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3761

S E C R E T CAIRO 6067

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CG MO MARR
SUBJ: SHABA INVASION: INTERVENTION OF MOROCCAN AND EGYPTIAN
FORCES

REF: A) CAIRO 5983/081226Z APR 77 B) STATE 80323

1. DATT MET WITH DMI TODAY AND DMI CONFIRMED THAT EGYPTIAN
MILITARY DELEGATION WAS ASSESSING SITUATION IN ZAIRE AND WAS NOT
AN AD ANCE PARTY FOR EGYPTIAN COMMITMENT OF TROOPS. EGYPTIAN
DELEGATION IS DUE BACK NEXT FRIDAY (15 APRIL). THE RESULTS OF
THIS MISSION WILL PROVIDE NECESSARY DATA UPON WHICH SENIOR LEVEL
OF GOE CAN BASE GO OR NO-GO DECISION. DMI SAID "WERE ARE NOT SURE
WHAT THE TERRAIN IS LIKE. IF IT IS JUNGLE WE CAN'T SEND OUR TROOPS
BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT TRAINED TO FIGHT IN THAT ENVIRONMENT.
AS MENTIONED IN REFTEL DATT WILL DEBRIEF DMI AND REPORT WHEN
EGYPTIAN TEAM RETURNS.

COMMENT: PROSPECT OF GETTING INVOLVED WITH SOVIET BACKED CUBAN TROOPS
IN ZAIRE BOTHERED DMI. HE WAS ALSO DISAPPOINTED THAT ZAIRE WAS SO
PUBLIC WITH ANNOUNCEMENTS OF SUPPORT - TODAY'S CAIRO NEWSPAPERS
CLAIM MOROCCAN TROOPS ENTERING ZAIRE. ACCORDING TO DMI
THIS PUBLICITY WILL PROVIDE SOVIETS AND CUBANS RATIONALE
TO SUPPORT KATANGAN REBELS. THIS ATTITUDE REFLECTS THE
EGYPTIAN PREFERENCE FOR EXTREME SECRECY IN ALL THINGS
MILITARY AND WAS PROBABLY PROPELLED BY HIS CONCERNS ABOUT

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SOVIET BACKED CUBANS.

2. DURING CHAT AT AIRPORT WHILE AWAITING SADAT'S
ARRIVAL AFTERNOON APRIL 9 MINISTER WAR
GAMASY VOLUNTEERED TO CHARGE THAT YESTERDAY REUTERS
HAD INQUIRED ABOUT REPORT FROM KINSHASA THAT EGYPT
WOULD BE SENDING TROOPS. GAMASY HAD AUTHORIZED

RESPONSE THAT SMALL MILITARY SURVEY TEAM HAD BEEN SENT
BUT STORY ABOUT TROOPS WAS WRONG. GAMASY GAVE
STRONG IMPRESSION THAT EGYPT DID NOT PLAN TO SEND
TROOPS, THOUGH CHARGE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY ASK HIM
ABOUT EGYPTIAN INTENTIONS IN VIEW OF INSTRUCTIONS IN
REF B. GAMASY DID NOT ASK FOR OUR VIEWS ON SUBJECT.
MATTHEWS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, INTERVENTION, MILITARY PLANS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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